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## nature

8 entries found for **nature**.

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nature		
call of nature		
crime against nature		
force of nature		
freak of nature		
human nature		

Main Entry: **na·ture**

Pronunciation: 'nA-ch&r

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Middle English, from Middle French, from Latin *natura*, from *natus*, past participle of *nasci* to be born -- more at **NATION**

**1 a** : the inherent character or basic constitution of a person or thing : **ESSENCE**

**b** : **DISPOSITION, TEMPERAMENT**

**2 a** : a creative and controlling force in the universe **b** : an inner force or the sum of such forces in an individual

**3** : a kind or class usually distinguished by fundamental or essential characteristics  
<documents of a confidential *nature*> <acts of a ceremonial *nature*>

**4** : the physical constitution or drives of an organism; *especially* : an excretory organ or function -- used in phrases like *the call of nature*

**5** : a spontaneous attitude (as of generosity)

**6** : the external world in its entirety

**7 a** : humankind's original or **natural** condition **b** : a simplified mode of life resembling this condition

**8** : the genetically controlled qualities of an organism

**9** : **natural** scenery

**synonym** see **TYPE**

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